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DE RUEHAN #0286 1021058  
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O 111058Z APR 08  
FM AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1190  
RHEHAAA/WHITE HOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC  
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 1001  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0066  
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 0079  
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0079  
RUEHZO/AFRICAN UNION COLLECTIVE

UNCLAS ANTANANARIVO 000286

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STATE FOR AF/E, AF/FO AND S  
AID/W FOR DCHA/OFDA - KLUU, ACONVERY, SROGERS, TDENYSENKO  
FOR DCHA/FFP/DP - PNOVICK, SANTHONY, JTAYLOR  
AFR/EA - OCOLE  
PRETORIA USAID/OFDA - HHALE  
NAIROBI FOR USAID/EA/FFP - DGORDON  
ROME FOR FODAG  
GENEVA FOR RMA, DHA, IFRC

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: LETTER TO POTUS FROM COMORAN PRESIDENT - APRIL 10

REF: ANTANANARIVO 277

¶1. (U) Paragraph Two contains an informal translation of this week's second letter in French from Ahmed Abdallah Mohamed Sambi, President of the Union of the Comoros, for President George Bush. Reftel contains the text of the first letter. It was delivered via faxed copy of a Diplomatic Note dated April 10, 2008. A scanned copy of the French original is also being sent to the desk.

¶2. (SBU) BEGIN TEXT:

Excellency,

As stated in my previous messages, the Anjouan crisis which was really slowing down the development efforts initiated by my Government came to an end on March 25th, 2008.

I take this opportunity to inform you that the acting Head of the Executive of the Autonomous Island of Anjouan was sworn in last March 31st, 2008.

In addition to this, the national institutions in charge of organizing the presidential election in Anjouan have reassured me that all the arrangements have been made so that the ballot could be held by late May.

Furthermore, I wish to indicate to Your Excellency that parallel to the organization of the elections in Anjouan, it is necessary to proceed also to the collection of the weapons that may still be in circulation on the island.

This difficult assignment should be followed by the reinsertion of the militia into the National Development Army in order to prevent any rebellion attempt that would be likely to bring our country back into the dark hours of separatism.

It is in this way that all the authorities of the Union and the Islands as well as the other involved stakeholders with the support of the international community can consider together the appropriate solutions to the differences that are undermining the smooth functioning of the national institutions.

Considering the above-mentioned, I turn towards Your Excellency to

request you to kindly consider in a positive way, as usual, to provide our country with your precious support.

Allow me to underline that the contribution of legal experts for the preparation of the inter-Comoran conferences in particular and in military and civilian observers for the island election will enable our country to fulfill the various stages that remain necessary for the return of social cohesion in the Comoros in view of an effective reactivation of the economic development of our islands.

Thanking you in advance for the kind diligence with which you will consider this request, please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Ahmed Abdallah Mohamed Sambi

END TEXT.

MARQUARDT